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09 938.277

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT:** Hughey et al. **GROUP:** 2881  
**SERIAL NO:** 09 938.277 **EXAMINER:** Z.R. Hashmi  
**FILED:** August 23, 2001  
**FOR:** SAMPLE INTRODUCTION INTERFACE FOR  
ANALYTICAL PROCESSING

**AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is in response to the Official Action dated February 13, 2003. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 29. Claims 1-44 are pending as follows:

1.(original) A method of converting a non-gaseous sample for accelerator mass spectrometry analysis, comprising:

converting desired elements present in the non-gaseous sample to a predetermined gaseous form; and

transporting the predetermined gaseous form to an accelerator mass spectrometer ion source.

2.(original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of converting comprises chemically reacting the non-gaseous sample.

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